RG104 E-1 Box 122 Aug-Dec 1880

Mint of the United States at Philadelphia,
MELTING AND REFINING DEPARTMENT,

Philadelphia, 11th December, 1880.

Sir,

I herewith present my Report on the operations of the Refinery with the Gold and Silver of October.

In my communication to you of the 6th Inst. I spoke incidentally of the loss of Gold in Refining and of one cause of the same, as showing the necessity of receiving from other branches of the Mint none but good tough bars. The Mint Law makes special provision for rendering our own deposits tough, and I shall avail myself of the same fully, yet fairly, in order to save the Government from unnecessary loss on Deposits.

The apparent loss in refining the October Deposits will of course be reduced by grains and sweep, but how far I cannot determine

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definitely. Beside arsenic, which was abundantly developed while toughening the fine gold in the usual manner, the Assayer has also discovered Tin, and perhaps other base metal could be detected by analysis, if time permitted. It is however less important to know what the metals are than to avoid having them at all.

I hoped to have made a more minute investigation of the loss, its amount and causes, but unfortunately a crucible, containing the fine gold, broke in the fire, (for the first time in the foreman's experience), and its sweep became mingled with the general sweep. The General Grain bar (just assayed), for November, contained 25 oz. Gold.

Hon. A. Loudon Snowden
Superintendent

Very respectfully
Sa C Booth
M & R

NARA RG104, Entry 1, Box 122

[Abstract:] Presents report of operations of Refining… 1207

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